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29 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Abbot Smith

SUBJECT : Attached Memorandum

1. This memorandum commenting on various passages in the President's news conference of 18 April 1969 was prepared at Ed Proctor's request. It received no dissemination from us other than to the O/DDI. I'm not sure whether the DDI passed it on, orally or in writing, to the Director.

2. After trying to figure out the basis for the figures in the President's "60 percent higher" quote, I called Larry Lynn to find out who had given this information. It turned out that he had. The methodology he used is given in the attachment to the memorandum.

3. In talking to Lynn, I remonstrated with him about this manner of using the NIPP and suggested that, if he read the estimate, he would be more cautious about giving the President figures based on a system as still unproved as the SS-Z-3. Lynn's reply was to the effect that he hadn't read the estimate but there was certainly nothing in the NIPP write-up to suggest that the SS-Z-3 was other than a virtual certainty. And on re-reading paragraph 14 on page I-5 of NIPP-69, I had to agree with him. (In all fairness, I'm not sure that he would have been greatly deterred by reading paragraph 22 of NIE 11-8-68. But there is, I believe, a difference of tone as well as detail in the way the NIE paragraph is rendered in the NIPP.)

Bruce C. Clarke, Jr.

Attachment:

Blind memo dated  
21 April 1969

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 -- Addressee 1 --  
1 -- Dr. Proctor  
1 -- OD/OSR

D/OSR:BCClarke:lm

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